



1997

AUSTRALIA at a glance

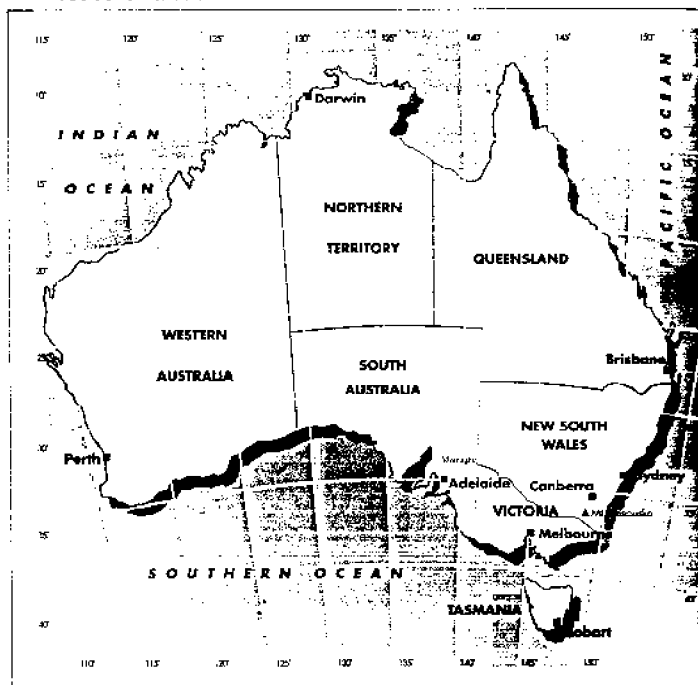


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Australia comprises a land area of 7,682,300 square kilometres. The land lies between latitudes 10° 41' South (Cape York) and 43° 39' South (South East Cape, Tasmania) and between longitudes 113° 09' East (Steep Point) and 153° 39' East (Cape Byron).

The area of Australia is almost as great as that of the United States of America (excluding Alaska), about 50% greater than Europe (excluding former USSR) and 32 times greater than the United Kingdom.

Australia is composed of six States: New South Wales (NSW), Victoria (Vic.), Queensland (Qld), South Australia (SA), Western Australia (WA), Tasmania (Tas.) and two Territories: the Northern Territory (NT) and the Australian Capital Territory (ACT). The longest river in Australia is the Murray River (2,520 kilometres), which forms a natural border between NSW and Vic. The highest mountain in Australia is Mount Kosciuszko, 2,230 metres, which is situated in NSW.



State/ Territory	Area '000km ²	Estimated resident population June '96p '000	Capital City	Estimated resident population of city June '95 '000(a)
NSW	802	6 190	Sydney	3 770
Vic.	228	4 541	Melbourne	3 217
Qld	1 727	3 355	Brisbane	1 489
SA	984	1 479	Adelaide	1 081
WA	2 526	1 763	Perth	1 262
Tas.	68	473	Hobart	195
NT	1 346	178	Darwin	79
ACT(b)	2	308	Canberra	304
Australia	7 682	(c)18 289		

(a) Capital City Statistical Division

(b) Excludes Jervis Bay Territory.

(c) Includes Jervis Bay Territory.

AGRICULTURE		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96p
Gross value of agriculture	\$m	23 551	23 549	27 321
Crops	\$m	11 516	11 132	15 298
Livestock slaughtering etc.	\$m	6 857	6 619	6 128
Livestock products	\$m	5 157	5 995	5 885
Wheat production	'000 t	16 479	8 972	17 196
Meat production (excluding poultry)	'000 t	2 817	2 759	2 585
Wool production	'000 t	(a)668 (b)784	(a)n.c. (b)679	(a)n.c. (b)641

(a) Agricultural Census data.

(b) Taxable wool received by brokers and dealers from wool producers.

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Balance on current account	\$m	-16 527	-28 100	-20 933
Balance of merchandise trade (BoP basis)	\$m	-589	-8 269	-1 789
Net services	\$m	-960	-1 377	93
Net income	\$m	-15 256	-18 978	-20 448
Net unrequited transfers	\$m	178	524	1 209
Balance on capital account	\$m	11 930	23 938	20 241
Total official	\$m	5 497	12 *51	1 791
Total non-official	\$m	6 433	11 787	18 450

BUILDING		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
New houses completed	'000	122	122	95
New other residential building completed	'000	46	48	41
Value of new residential building completed	\$m	14 464	15 595	13 792
Value of non-residential building completed	\$m	9 349	9 183	11 250

CLIMATE

	Average annual rainfall mm	Average daily hours of sun- shine	Average temperature			
			January		July	
			Max. °C	Min. °C	Max. °C	Min. °C
Canberra	630	7.6	27.7	12.9	11.1	-0.2
Sydney	1 226	6.7	25.8	18.5	16.1	7.9
Melbourne	660	5.7	25.8	14.0	13.3	5.8
Brisbane	1 152	7.5	29.3	20.6	20.4	9.5
Adelaide	450	6.9	27.9	15.5	14.8	6.8
Perth	800	7.9	31.1	16.7	17.6	8.0
Hobart	626	5.8	21.9	12.0	11.8	4.5
Darwin	1 668	8.4	31.9	24.8	30.4	19.3

Hottest day ever recorded: 16.1.1889: 53.1°C, Cloncurry, Qld.

Coldest day ever recorded: 28.6.1994: -23.0°C, Charlotte Pass, NSW.

Source: Bureau of Meteorology.

CONSUMER PRICE AND OTHER PRICE INDEXES

Consumer Price Index weighted average of 8 capital cities		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
All groups	1989-90 = 100.0	110.3	113.9	118.7
Export	1989-93 = 100.0	91.8	94.7	96.1
Import	1989-90 = 100.0	115.6	114.8	115.0
Building materials-house	1985-86 = 100.0	112.0	115.4	115.7
Building materials-other	1989-90 = 100.0	107.5	110.4	112.7
Manufacturing				
Materials used	1989-90 = 100.0	104.7	107.5	110.0
Articles produced	1988-89 = 100.0	115.5	118.1	121.1

DEMOGRAPHY		1994	1995	1996
Population at 30 June	'000	17 838.4	18 049.0	18 288.1
Aged less than 15 years	%	21.5	21.4	21.2
Aged 15-64 years	%	66.0	66.7	66.7
Aged 65 years and over	%	11.8	11.9	12.1

		1994	1995	1996
Births	'000	259	257	252
Overseas born mothers	%	24.0	24.1	n.a.
Australian born mothers	%	76.0	75.9	n.a.
Deaths	'000	123	126	126
Marriages	'000	111	111	108
Divorces	'000	48	49	52
Overseas movement of persons		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Net permanent and long-term movement	'000	67	93	110
Visitor arrivals, short-term	'000	3 169	3 535	3 966
Resident departures, short-term	'000	2 304	2 422	2 624
Birthplace major settler arrivals		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
United Kingdom	no.	8 963	10 689	11 270
New Zealand	no.	7 772	10 498	12 270
Viet Nam	no.	5 434	5 097	3 570
Hong Kong	no.	3 333	4 135	4 360
Total all settler arrivals	no.	69 768	87 428	99 140
Birthplace major humanitarian program arrivals		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Former Yugoslav Republics	no.	3 665	5 100	6 221
Viet Nam	no.	2 298	1 507	271
Former USSR and Baltic States	no.	820	1 032	480
Iraq	no.	949	2 245	2 170
Total all humanitarian program arrivals	no.	11 350	13 632	13 824

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics and the Department of Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs.

EDUCATION

Expenditure (a)		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Government expenditure	\$m	22 096	22 640	23 922
Private expenditure	\$m	5 949	6 149	6 451
School Students		1994	1995	1996
Government	'000	2 214.9	2 207.9	2 221.5
Non-government	'000	884.4	901.5	921.5
Total	'000	3 099.4	3 109.3	3 142.9
Technical and further education students (b)	'000	1 693.5	1 661.2	n.y.a.
Higher education students (c)	'000	585.4	604.2	634.1

(a) Source: ABS Expenditure and Education Australia 1996-97 (5501.0).

(b) Source: National Centre for Vocational Education Research Limited.

(c) Source: Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs.

EXCHANGE RATE (average)		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
United States dollar	units per \$A	0.6919	0.7405	0.7630
United Kingdom pound	units per \$A	0.4622	0.4683	0.4938
German mark	units per \$A	1.1636	1.1040	1.1180
Japanese yen	units per \$A	73.00	69.86	78.33

Source: Reserve Bank of Australia — exchange rates are derived using rates in respect of each trading day.

FINANCE

Government Finance		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Revenue (all governments)	\$m	149 409	160 870	173 550
Commonwealth income tax, persons	\$m	48 986	52 742	58 618
Other Commonwealth government taxes	\$m	44 342	52 350	56 868
State and local government taxes	\$m	31 932	33 409	35 788
Total outlay (all governments)	\$m	165 373	176 937	174 213
Final consumption expenditure	\$m	69 775	72 321	76 059
Personal benefit payments to residents	\$m	49 647	51 732	55 622
Expenditure on new fixed assets	\$m	20 680	21 878	21 977

Private finance		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Assets of selected financial institutions				
(June balances)				
Banks(a)	\$m	412 842	437 903	486 652
FCA corporations (a)(b)	\$m	114 488	130 935	141 607
Statutory funds of life offices	\$m	114 674	118 520	126 067
Superannuation and approved deposit funds	\$m	122 198	134 072	152 026
Public unit trusts	\$m	37 982	41 220	48 479
Friendly societies	\$m	9 009	8 531	7 775
Common funds	\$m	4 884	4 165	4 582
Cash management trusts	\$m	5 915	5 625	7 037
Consumer finance commitments				
Housing finance to individuals	\$m	47 832	42 306	43 631
Personal finance to individuals	\$m	25 453	28 514	32 387

(a) Source: Reserve Bank of Australia

(b) Includes corporations registered as categories A-G under the *Financial Corporations Act*, such as building societies, credit unions and money market corporations.

HEALTH		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Governments health expenditure(a)	\$m	34 899	36 663	38 356
Beds at 30 June				
		1993	1994	1995
Recognised (public) hospitals	no.	55 407	54 054	53 907
Private hospitals	no.	21 648	22 375	23 273
Day hospital facilities	no.	614	291	314
All beds	no.	77 669	76 720	77 494
Beds per '000 population		4.4	4.32	4.32
Hospitals at 30 June				
		1993	1994	1995
Recognised (public) hospitals	no.	696	681	688
Private hospitals	no.	374	331	334
Day hospital facilities	no.	89	109	127
All hospitals	no.	1 099	1 121	1 149
Major causes of death				
Heart disease	no.	37 252	38 253	37 006
Malignant neoplasms (cancer)	no.	32 691	33 658	33 805

(a) Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics and the Department of Health and Family Services.

INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS 1995-96

Country	Balance on merchandise trade \$US mil	Consumer price index (all items) 1990 = 100.0	Producer price index 1990 = 100.0
Australia	-1 497	115.4	110.5
Canada	31 679	112.6	118.0
France	19 912	112.9	100.8
Germany	58 755	119.9	107.1
Italy	35 114	130.8	124.1
Japan	78 830	106.3	95.7
New Zealand	-508	112.0	109.4
OECD Major 7	n.c.	116.9	107.8
United Kingdom	-26 572	119.7	122.6
United States of America	-153 283	118.3	108.6

Country	Wages index 1990=100.0	Employment index 1990=100.0	Unemployment rate (a)
Australia	115.5	105.6	8.3
Canada	105.4	103.3	10.0
France	117.4	99.4	12.3
Germany	122.4	n.y.a.	8.9
Italy	109.1	94.2	12.0
Japan	112.5	103.4	3.5
Netherlands	109.5	112.3	6.1
OECD	110.7	102.2	6.8
United Kingdom		94.8	8.3
United States of America		106.4	5.3
(a) As at 30 June			

INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT POSITION		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Net foreign liabilities at 30 June	\$m	238 407	260 982	284 737
Foreign investment in Australia	\$m	372 216	401 736	436 703
Australian investment abroad	\$m	133 808	140 754	151 966
Net foreign debt at 30 June	\$m	163 965	181 972	187 804
Foreign borrowing	\$m	207 137	223 990	235 482
Australian lending abroad and reserve assets	\$m	43 172	42 019	47 678
Net foreign liabilities at 30 June as a % of GDP	%	55.4	57.3	58.6
Net foreign debt at 30 June as a % of GDP	%	38.1	39.9	38.6

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Total exports f.o.b.	\$m	64 548	67 052	76 057
Total imports (customs value)	\$m	64 470	74 619	77 792
Percentage of total exports to				
Japan	%	24.7	24.3	21.6
ASEAN	%	14.0	15.5	15.4
EC	%	11.8	11.2	11.1
Percentage of total imports from				
Japan	%	18.1	17.1	13.9
United States of America	%	21.7	21.5	22.6

Major export commodities f.o.b.				
Machinery and transport equipment	\$m	7 502	8 138	9 715
Metalliferous ores and metal scrap	\$m	7 315	7 604	8 666
Coal, coke and briquettes	\$m	7 255	6 938	7 840
Gold, non-monetary	\$m	5 269	4 699	5 625
Meat	\$m	4 044	3 661	3 295
Non-ferrous metals	\$m	3 933	4 275	5 084
Wool, not carded/combed	\$m	2 908	3 417	2 736
Wheat	\$m	2 290	1 618	3 363
Major import commodities customs value				
Machinery	\$m	20 184	24 432	25 992
Transport Equipment	\$m	8 727	10 728	10 466
Chemicals and related products	\$m	7 045	8 009	8 901

LABOUR FORCE		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Annual averages				
Employed persons	'000	7 780.6	8 093.1	8 299.7
Unemployed persons	'000	915.5	794.6	766.7
Unemployment rate	%	10.5	8.9	8.5
Job vacancies	per '000 unemployed	47.3	77.1	76.8
Trade union membership, August	'000	2 376.9	2 283.4	2 251.8
Industrial disputes, work days lost, year ended 30 June	'000	530	579.7	798.7

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Recommended retail price: \$1.00



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MANUFACTURING		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Basic iron	'000	7 210	7 449	7 553
Clay bricks for structural purposes	mil.	1 814	1 860	1 455
Cement (portland)	'000t	6 733	7 124	6 396
Beer	ML	1 752	1 788	1 742
Assembled motor vehicles	'000	321	328	328
Electricity	MkWh	161 913	165 065	167 543
Gas	mil. MJ	587 010	629 407	620 889
Electric motors	'000	2 990	3 101	2 875
Yarn — cotton	t	33 780	37 643	36 955
Yarn — wool	t	21 016	23 093	20 063

Census		(a)1992-93	(a)1993-94	(a)1994-95
Employment at end of June(b)	'000	913.5	910.9	p925.3
Wages and salaries(c)	\$m	27 808.9	28 086.3	p29 726.5
Turnover	\$m	173 656.0	183 652.0	p191 777.3

(a) Adjusted for lags and leakages.

(b) Includes working proprietors.

(c) Excludes the drawings of working proprietors.

MINING		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Iron ore and concentrates	'000 t	123 892	136 991	147 831
Black coal, raw	'000 t	221 783	236 923	241 909
Crude oil (incl. condensate)	ML	28 672	31 168	30 260
Natural gas	GL	26 114	29 208	29 985

Source: Australian Bureau of Resource Economics, ABS Hobart, NSW Joint Coal Board, Queensland Coal Board, WA Department of Minerals and Energy, ETSA Generation.

NATIONAL ACCOUNTS		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Gross domestic product	\$m	430 424	455 524	486 176
Gross farm product	\$m	12 023	10 959	14 415
GDP(A) at 1989-90 prices	\$m	396 385	412 794	430 270
Gross farm product at 1989-90 prices	\$m	15 010	11 861	14 634
Gross fixed capital expenditure — total	\$m	87 192	96 882	98 123
Gross fixed capital expenditure — pte	\$m	69 058	76 489	77 519
Household income	\$m	335 576	353 952	381 400
Private consumption expenditure	\$m	266 479	284 003	303 836

RETAIL TURNOVER		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
(excluding motor vehicles, parts, petrol, etc.)	\$m	104 424.1	112 244.6	120 770.1

TOURISM		1993	1994	1995
Short-term travellers(a)				
Source country, major overseas visitors				
Japan	'000	670.8	721.1	782.7
New Zealand	'000	499.3	480.4	538.4
United Kingdom	'000	310.3	335.3	347.9
United States of America	'000	281.3	289.7	304.9
Total all visitors	'000	2 996.2	3 361.7	3 725.8
Major destinations of Australian travellers				
New Zealand	'000	347.2	353.3	371.4
United States of America	'000	300.1	288.3	314.0
United Kingdom	'000	241.1	254.5	265.4
Indonesia	'000	198.8	214.2	222.2
Total all travellers	'000	2 267.1	2 354.3	2 518.6

(a) Less than one year.

Accommodation		1993	1994	1995
Hotels, motels, etc.				
Establishments	no.	4 832	4 819	4 856
Rooms available at 31 December	no.	166 743	166 963	169 630
Room nights occupied	'000	32 398	34 528	35 880
Takings from accommodation	\$m	2 626.1	2 935.2	3 284.2

		1993	1994	1995
Caravan Parks				
Establishments	no.	2 704	2 716	2 708
Sites available	no.	288 300	288 410	288 464
Site nights occupied	'000	45 133	45 930	46 155
Short-term caravan parks				
Sites available at 31 December	no.	188 934	190 774	196 583
Site occupancy rate	%	38.8	40.3	40.9
Takings from accommodation	\$m	229.8	250.0	272.4
Holiday flats, units and houses				
Letting entities	no.	1 493	1 535	1 611
Units available at 31 December	no.	35 486	37 534	39 249
Unit nights occupied	'000	6 467	6 943	7 423
Unit occupancy rate	%	51.4	52.7	52.9
Takings from accommodation	\$m	383.3	337.4	394.0
TRANSPORT		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Motor Vehicles on register, June(a)	'000	10 432	10 699	10 935
Cars and station wagons, June	'000	8 050	8 209	8 392
New motor vehicle registered(a)	'000	559	592	659
Civil aviation (passenger km)(b)				
Regular internal services	mill.	18 996	19 997	p23 423
Overseas services (Qantas)	mill.	33 189	37 341	n.a.

(a) Includes motor cycles; excludes tractors, plant and equipment, caravans and trailers.

(b) Source: Department of Transport.

WAGES, EARNINGS and HOURS		1994	1995	1996
Award rates of pay index, full-time adult employees at 30 June 1985 = 100.0		142.1	144.4	145.9
Earnings & hours (incl. over-time) full-time adult non-managerial employees, May				
Av. weekly total earnings	\$	623.00	655.50	659.30
Hours	no.	39.9	39.9	39.8

SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED

Annual periods shown as, for example, 1994 refers to the year ended 31 December 1994; those shown as, for example 1994-95 refer to the year ended June 1995. Values are shown in Australian dollars (\$) unless another currency is specified. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between the sums of the component items and totals.

Av	— average	mm	— millimetre
BoP	— Balance of Payments	n.a.	— not available
°C	— degrees Celsius	n.c.	— not collected
\$A	— Australian dollar	MJ	— megajoule
\$m	— million dollars	MkWh	— mega kilowatt hours
f.o.b.	— free on board	no.	— number
GL	— gigalitre	n.y.a.	— not yet available
incl.	— including	%	— per cent
km²	— square kilometres	p	— preliminary data
max.	— maximum	pte	— private
mill.	— million	'000	— thousand
min.	— minimum	t	— tonne
ML	— megalitre		

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